In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-9, 11-17 and 19 as indicated below. This listing replaces all prior versions.

1. (Currently amended) A time-triggered communication system which comprises:

at least ~~two~~ first and second channels ~~(A, B)~~ and at least a first and a second node of a ~~the~~ [["]]cold-start node[["]] type that perform a cold-start operation of the communication system responsive to a start signal received via the channels:~~, characterized in that~~

a first communication controller ~~is~~ assigned to the first channel ~~(A)~~ and a second communication controller ~~is~~ assigned to the second channel ~~(B)~~, the first and the second communication controller each including ~~comprise~~ a local clock, said local clocks being independent of each other:[[,]]

an interface ~~(1a, 1b)~~ for ~~the~~ interchannel communication ~~is~~ arranged between the first communication controller and the second communication controller, wherein

~~both~~ the first and second communication controllers each ~~have means for~~ generate ~~ing, and~~ send ~~ing~~ a status signal to the other one of the communication controllers via the interface, each of the first and second communication controllers receiving and storing a the status signal sent by the other one of the communication controllers ~~("ready", "abort")~~, and

both the first and second communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~ perform the cold-start operation only if both of the communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~ are in ~~the~~ a [["]]ready[["]] status as indicated by the status signals.

2. (Currently amended) A time-triggered communication system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that each of the two local clocks is pulsed by ~~another~~ oscillator, wherein the first communication controller is assigned only to the first channel and the second communication controller is assigned only to the second channel.

3. (Currently amended) A time-triggered communication system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that both ~~of the~~ communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~ ~~comprise differently configurable means for~~ generate~~ing~~ a start-up timer.

4. (Currently amended) A time-triggered communication system as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that both communication controllers (2, 6) comprise~~ ~~means for receiving~~ wherein the status signals are one of a ~~start~~ ready signal ~~or~~ and an abort signal, and wherein the communication system is a dual-channel system that includes only the first and second channels, with identical data being transferred on both of the channels.

5. (Currently amended) A time-triggered communication system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that both of the communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~ are arranged on a single chip ~~(11)~~, and the interface ~~(1b)~~ is also integrated on this chip ~~(11)~~.

6. (Currently amended) A time-triggered communication system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that both of the communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~ are arranged on a chip ~~(9, 10)~~ of their own, and the interface ~~(1a)~~ is externally arranged to the chips.

7. (Currently amended) A method of carrying out a synchronous cold start in a time-triggered communication system that includes at least first and second channels and at least first and second nodes of a cold-start node type that perform a cold start operation of the communication system responsive to a start signal received via the channels, the nodes each including a communication controller, ~~in particular a communication system as claimed in claim 1,~~ the method comprising the steps of generating a status signal in each of the communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~ in dependence on parameters, transmitting each of the status signals to the ~~relevant~~ other one of the communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~ via an interface ~~(1a, 1b)~~, comparing, by each of the communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~,

their own state with that of the ~~relevant~~ other communication controller ~~(2, 6)~~, and performing ~~a~~ the cold-start operation only if, and so long as, both of the communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~ are in ~~the~~ a [["]]ready[["]] state as indicated by the status signals.

8. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that a ready signal is generated as the status signal if all conditions for performing the cold start operation exist for the cold start node in question, and an abort signal is generated as the status signal if a fault occurs at the relevant cold start node.

9. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the states of the communication controllers are compared continuously or at least at time intervals, and wherein the communication controller of the first node is assigned only to the first channel and the communication controller of the second node is assigned only to the second channel.

10. (Previously presented) The use of a time-triggered communication system as claimed in claim 1, in a motor vehicle control.

11. (Currently amended) A device for a time-triggered communication system ~~which comprises~~ that includes at least ~~two~~ first and second channels ~~(A, B)~~ and at least two nodes of ~~the~~ a [["]]cold-start node[["]] type that perform a cold start operation of the communication system responsive to a start signal received via the channels, ~~characterized in that~~ the device comprising ~~es~~: a first communication controller ~~(2)~~ with an independent local clock which is assigned to the first channel ~~(A)~~; a second communication controller ~~(6)~~ with an independent local clock which is assigned to the second channel ~~(B)~~; an interface (1a, 1b) for ~~the~~ interchannel communication, ~~which is~~ arranged between the two communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~, wherein the first and second communication controllers each ~~and means for~~ generate ~~ing,~~ and sending a status signal to the other one of the communication controllers via the interface, each of the first and

second communication controllers receiving and storing ~~a~~ the status signal <u>sent by</u> <u>the other one of the communication controllers</u> ~~("ready", "abort")~~<u>, and wherein</u> <u>both the first and second communication controllers perform the cold-start</u> <u>operation only if both of the communication controllers are in a ready status as</u> <u>indicated by the status signals.</u>

12. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that each of the two independent local clocks is pulsed by ~~another~~ oscillator<u>, wherein</u> <u>the first communication controller is assigned only to the first channel and the</u> <u>second communication controller is assigned only to the second channel</u>.

13. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that ~~its~~ <u>the</u> two communication controllers ~~(2, 6) comprise differently configurable~~ ~~means for~~ <u>each</u> generate<u>~~ing~~</u> a start-up timer.

14. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ ~~both communication controllers (2, 6) comprise means for receiving~~ <u>wherein the</u> <u>status signals are one of</u> a ~~start~~ <u>ready</u> signal ~~or~~ <u>and</u> an abort signal.

15. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that ~~it comprises a chip (11) on which~~ both <u>of the</u> communication controllers ~~(2, 6)~~ are arranged <u>on a chip</u> ~~and~~ on which the interface ~~(1b)~~ is integrated.

16. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that ~~a~~ <u>each of the</u> communication controller<u>s</u> ~~(2, 6)~~ is arranged ~~in each case~~ on a chip ~~(9,~~ ~~10)~~ of its own and the interface ~~(1a)~~ is arranged externally thereto.

17. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 11 ~~claim 11~~, characterized in that the device comprises: means for generating a status signal in each <u>of the</u> communication controller ~~(2, 6)~~ in dependence upon parameters; means for transmitting the status signal<u>s</u> to the ~~relevant~~ other <u>one of the</u> communication

controller (2, 6) via an the interface (1a, 1b); means for comparing the states of the two communication controllers (2, 6), and means for carrying out a the cold-start operation.

18. (Previously presented) A motor vehicle control comprising a device as claimed in claim 11.

19. (Currently amended) A program storage medium, that is run by comprising:

a processor-readable storage device and that contains configured with instructions for implementing a method of carrying out a synchronous cold start in a time-triggered communication system that includes at least first and second channels and at least first and second nodes of a cold-start node type that perform a cold-start operation of the communication system responsive to a start signal received via the channels, the nodes each including a communication controller, as claimed in claim 7 wherein execution of the instructions by a processor causes the processor to perform operations including:

generating a status signal in each of the communication controllers in dependence on parameters;

transmitting each of the status signals to the other one of the communication controllers via an interface;

comparing, by each of the communication controllers, their own state with that of the other communication controller; and

performing the cold-start operation only if, and so long as, both of the communication controllers are in a ready state as indicated by the status signals.